

Introduction to the call for applications for the EU Cluster Manager of the Year 2019



Directorate-General for
Internal Market,
Industry,
Entrepreneurship and
SMEs (DG GROW)



Romanian Presidency
of the Council of the
European Union



The EU Cluster Manager of the year Award is an opportunity to promote the excellence of European cluster initiatives in the EU

- **Who can participate?** European Cluster Managers willing to showcase their excellence
- **How to participate?** Fill the **online application**, available [here](#). Deadline for the submission is 15 April 2019 (midnight)
- **What is next?** Three shortlisted Cluster Managers, will be invited to give a pitch and answer some questions during the **Cluster Award pitching & networking cocktail** on **14 May**. The conference participants will select the winner, who will be awarded a during the **cluster award ceremony**. The selected Cluster Manager of the Year 2019 will be asked to give a short speech in the morning of the 15 May to the conference participants.



SELECTION CRITERIA

Tell us your success story :



Which challenges did you experience?

How did you address them successfully?



EXAMPLES OF SUCCESS STORIES

Pick up at least two of the following categories and give a short description (two pages) of recent success stories you achieved

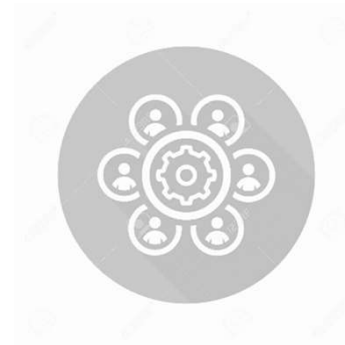


1. Management structure

What is your strategy to secure the **internal organization** of your cluster?

Think about the management of:

- Financial resources
- Human resources and their development
- Integration of experts



2. Competitiveness of the cluster companies

On which instrument do you rely to improve the competitiveness of your **cluster members**?

- Cluster mobility schemes
- Developing cluster managers' skills and learning



3. Active participation of the cluster members

How do you promote **cooperation activities** between members of your cluster and the ecosystem?

Think about:

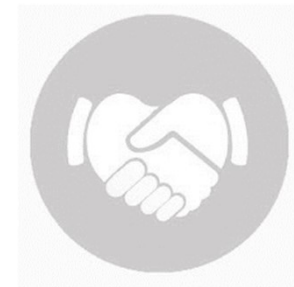
- Networking activities
- Building partnerships to research and innovate



4. Cluster to cluster cooperation

Which efforts did you put in place to sustain **partnerships** with other clusters in **Europe and beyond**?

- Twinning
- Workshops
- Educational visits
- Cooperation projects



5. Active participation in cross-sectoral collaboration

How does your cluster **add value** to existing industries and **facilitate** the development of emerging industries?

Think about:

- Cross sectoral collaboration along and across different value chains
- Encouraging resource-efficient solutions
- Upskilling



